

Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 CU-04 /150 W

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R 252315Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3795

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 3642

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ES

SUBJ: UNIVERSITY REOPENS

REF:SAN SALVADOR USINFO R 252135Z

1. MORE THAN 14 MONTHS AFTER ITS CLOSURE BY THE GOES, THE UNIVERSIDAD DE EL SALVADOR (UES) OFFICIALLY RESUMED AT LEAST SOME OF ITS CLASSES ON SEPTEMBER 25. SOME 20,000 STUDENTS HAVE REPORTEDLY MATRICULTED ON THE UNIVERSITY'S THREE CAMPUSES, APPROXIMATELY DOUBLING THE 1972 ENROLLMENT. OUTWARD SIGNS POINT TO CONSIDERABLE DISORGANIZATION AND CONFUSION IN SCHEDULING AND ASSIGNMENTS.

2. AT THE BELATED GRADUATION OF 56 STUDENTS ON THE EVE OF THE RESUMPTION OF CLASSES, RECTOR DR. JUAN ALLWOOD PAREDES SET THE TONE BY EXHORTING: "LET US CONTINUE FORWARD" WITH THE TASK OF PREPARING PROFESSIONALS FOR SERVICE TO THE COUNTRY. AS HE SPOKE, HOWEVER, A HOMEMADE BOMB EXPLODED OUTSIDE THE BUILDING, CAUSING MINOR DAMAGE BUT INJURING NO ONE. WHILE THE ORIGIN OF THE BOMB
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REMAINS UNKNOWN--BOTH LEFT AND RIGHT-WINGERS WOULD

HAVE MOTIVES--IT IS A VIVID REMINDER OF THE TURBULENCE
THAT MAY DEVELOP ON THE UES CAMPUS.

3. ALTHOUGH THE UES RECENTLY HIRED FORMER POLICE-
MEN AS ITS OWN SECURITY FORCE, THE GOES IS REPORTEDLY
STEPPING UP ITS TRAINING OF RIOT CONTROL UNITS AND
POLICE SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE SECURITY FORCES ARE
PREPARED TO MOVE AGAINST DEMONSTRATORS AT THE FIRST
SIGN OF GROUBLE. IN KEEPING WITH THE STYLE OF THE
PRESENT ADMINISTRATION, WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT IT WOULD
NOT HESITATE TO INTERVENE IN THE UES ONCE AGAIN SHOULD
THINGS GET OUT OF HAND.
MOSKOWITZ

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NNN

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